

Volume 1 Number 5 • May 20th, 1991

BARDVARK

S P E C I A L
E M E R G E N C Y
S A T I R E
I S S U E

EPC

What I Saw at the Revolution

1. I get woken up at 8am by a pre-pubescent boy who goes on about some kind of rate policy takeover. Being as alarmed about tuition as the next person, I go. Big mistake.

2. Arrive on the scene to notice lots of people sitting around, waiting for something to happen. I was not at home in bed waiting for something to happen. This annoys me. Someone is humming "Welcome to the Occupation".

3. The invaders did not have the foresight to pack bag breakfasts. However, watching some idiot try to throw a two pound bag of bagels onto the roof does distract one from the silly things Dean Santa Claus is saying.

4. The poor *Absurder* people who have tolerated abuse from the politically righteous all year (as well as the rest of us), this is their shining moment in the sun. *The New York Times* isn't there yet so COME ON DOWN Kristin Hutchinson! Can you spell *duplicitious* or, better yet, *Pandering*?

5. Having the same variety of hysterical sub-adolescents throw themselves in my face yakking about the apathy of those who were watching and not taking part. If I really didn't care, you mindless yodel, I would be among the hundreds of students still eating breakfast.

6. Someone on the Ludlow roof has raised an American flag. This is absurd, yet no one seems to realize this. Does this mean that the people who have broken into the administration building are the Americans, and the outsiders are... the commies?

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EHE

A Report on the Banality of Weasels

It's been an interesting year. It started quite calmly with vandalism and ended with personal invective shouted from the roof of Ludlow by sniping anti-Botstein protestors. It's going to be hard to top next year. And it's already made a good number of students wonder if they even want to try.

How many of us are looking back with fondness now at those quiet, pleasant events that seemed so tumultuous at the time. The red spray-painted letters, the posters, the dozens of organizations that sprang up.

It seems innocent now when we look back and see how people used the very real and very painful suffering of their fellow students (and perhaps even themselves) to gain personal political power and the ego trip of having their names in *The Absurder*. And then, with as little warning as we had of its arrival, it was gone. And deep down inside didn't you miss how it polarized the community?

Well, it's all back. And so much more.

Don't act surprised. You don't really think they were going to give up all that power? That some of them were going to graduate without ever having seized an administration building? Don't be silly.

So now they have. Of course, they couldn't do it without a lot of beer. Of course while they were there they had to make a few hundred dollars worth of long distance calls. Of course, they couldn't stay over the weekend.

And who were they? And what did they object to? Well that's immaterial.

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HATE

LIES

DECEPTION

DEATH THREATS

HYPOCRISY

AND

COMPROMISE,

COMPROMISE,

COMPROMISE

AND THEN THERE'S

THE

ADMINISTRATION...

LEON'S ON TV

SHELLEY'S ON HER

BUTT

AND

ELAINE'S ON HER

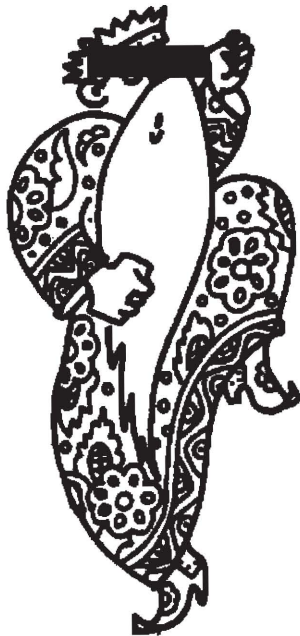
WAY OUT

Errata

The Cover Photo in the last issue of *Bardvark* (and there may be many who wish it had been our last issue) was taken by Fred Baker and appeared uncredited. This was an oversight and we apologize to Mr. Baker.

In Our "Godzilla Vs. The Absurder" article, also in the last issue at least one student was highly offended by our characterization of the actions of the Coalition for Choice as "storm trooper-like". To clarify matters she demanded an exact definition of the term "storm trooper", a better one than the one given her at the time has since come to light. Storm troopers are troopers who storm things.

In our Wolverine Exposé we neglected to mention the fact that few, if any, wolverines can actually fly and that it is badgers, not, in fact, wolverines who live in the New York City sewers and prey on the weak and sickly. We apologize for any inconvenience this might have caused.



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7. The students who have supposedly "barricaded" themselves inside the building both let in the press when convenient (hope you all dressed nice for all those roof shots!) and themselves out when they get bored. It's good to see that hygiene and a good nights sleep don't interfere with political convictions.

8. I hear one of the Ludlowites on the roof offer to buy a keg to get people over to Ludlow to participate. Now there's someone who understands Bard students. Any one for a rape awareness party?

EHE From Previous Page

We should just support them because we're against rape and they're doing all this for our own good (sort of like Beth Frumpkin). Clearly we couldn't be in favor of the rights of the accused or in favor keeping innocent people from being harassed by do-gooding bad people. Those things are abstract ideas for poor people in far off lands. Here at Bard it's final judgement by the loudest and the most organized. Isn't that how the forum is run? Isn't that what the administration responds to? Isn't that fair?

What? You still want to know what the issues where? Well, it apparently wasn't about the case that it was about, unless you talk

to some people who say that it was. Huh? Well never mind. It was about the fact that the Rape Crisis program that SASH (Students Against Sexual Harassment) had wanted to start was never funded. Of course they never applied for a budget and the person who was responsible for not applying was one those inside Ludlow. What? Skip that. It was about Leon's right, as Prexy, to act as final arbiter of all disciplinary issues. Of course some of the members of the take over made a separate peace with Leon personally, after the ordeal was over, whereby they named a sexual attacker and he was promptly (within hours) expelled. Excuse me? Well, maybe it was just about a big show of solidarity and unity. Not of course that there is really any general support on campus for what they did. Oh forget it. It wasn't about anything.

On top of all this there is the rumor going around (started by such a questionable source as Papa-"Doc"-dimitrou himself) that some unnamed party has pulled a donation of over a million smackers out of the fund for the new library. Which is only fitting because the head of the ad hoc student library committee was also part of the occupying force.

But at least it's over. No one would ever try to take over Ludlow again. Not that Leon didn't cave in. Not that those who did it this

Bardvark, Bard's Vicious Dog of Social Criticism, is Published Anonymously by the Following

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Editors' Note: The editors of Bardvark will no longer be exercising a policy of listening quietly to the complaints of parties who feel we have offended them and nodding politely without actually having any intention of correcting the situation. We will no longer be listening to complaints. Thank you.

time got in any trouble. But it would be so... so... so... unoriginal. It would be like Germany invading France through Belgium twice.

So who's responsible? A good question. In general "Ludlow" and "Responsible" are two words that no one wants to use in the same sentence. But it doesn't really matter. By fall almost everyone in charge of the attack will be gone. That's going to leave an enormous empty for those of us who want to blame stuff on people and see folks unduly punished (now a popular activity). So who can fill this "scapegoat-gap", as we like to call it? Leon's a good target, but he's too high up. Papadimitrou is an unwholesome character, but in all fairness probably had very little to do with anything. Stu's just a big lovable goof. Elaine Sprout's being fired (we just wanted to stick that in there.) This leaves only one really qualified scapegoat. Shelly Morgan.

She's generally in charge of this whole area of student life, that is: discipline, mushy-huggy counseling, and keeping paths unlit. And we certainly don't think this would have ever happened if Steve Nelson were still here. What's more, Shelly's responsible for introducing the measure into the

forum to have the word "freshman" changed to "first year student" something for which she could never be properly punished.

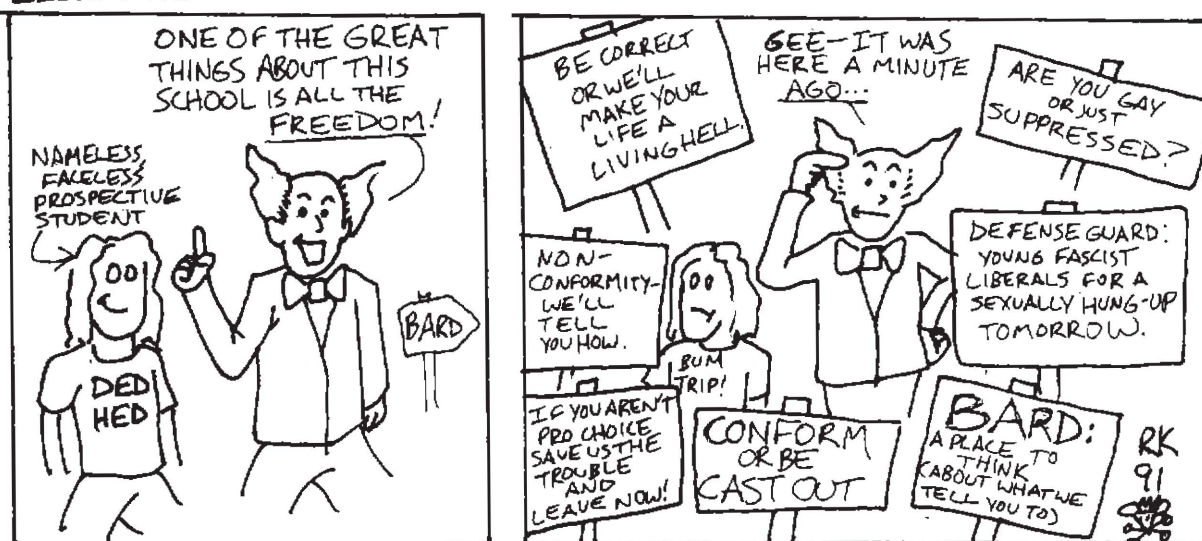
Some one must pay. The masses demand it. There is but one obvious choice. Shelly Morgan must be unjustly punished so that the rest of us can feel better. That is the nature of justice after all.

Blood-suckers Ad 12 Columns

Some Further Changes From the Dean of Student's Office

Manor House will now be Big Faraway House
North Hoffman will now be North Hoff
South Hoffman will now be South Morgan
Hegeman will now just be Hege
Bonnie Gilman will now be Bonnie Gilcup
Prof. Manheim will now be Prof. Personheim
Prof. C. Manea will now be Prof. Ea
Prof. N. Manea will just be Norm
Papadimitrou will now be Parentdimitrou
The Old Gym will now be the Student Center
The Library will now be taken seriously
The Absurder will now be funny
and Ludlow will now be locked at night
Thank you.

LEONZO THE CLOWN



I Heart Leon

It is neither surprising that the protestors perched on the small tar topped roof of Ludlow's entrance would be chanting "Hey Ho Leon Botstein's Got To Go!", considering how pleasant that is compared to what they were yelling directly at other students, or that the leader of the "defence guard", an organization whose soul purpose was to harass people, would spit in Leon's face upon receiving his diploma. Perhaps what is surprising is that the protestors didn't fall through the decades old roof that was probably put up by B&G in the first place or that Leon was handing that guy a diploma at all.

But even less surprising is that there is a rumor going around that Leon may soon see fit to resign his post here as senior honcho and take a job as human resources director at Soloman Brothers, a major investment banking firm in Manhattan. It's hard to stay somewhere where half the population is angry at you for caving in and the other half for not caving in enough. Especially if office space is scarce and you're not sure from one day to the next whether your desk is yours or someone else's.

But there are plenty of reasons to like Leon and to want him to stay. He's a character, he's smart, he dresses spiffily, and he gets his name (which is always followed closely by the words "Bard College") printed in lots of important journals that don't have any pictures in them at all (and every one of those ups your chance of getting into grad school by at least 2%). And recently he was on NightLine (they were talking about bridges or something).

Of course the very best reason to like him is, very strangely, one of the reasons many people hate

him. It's really hard to imagine disliking someone because they raise simply huge amounts of money for your college. And Leon has raised all that and more. *The Absurder* may think it's funny when they talk about the french fries you could buy with the money that's gone to pay your tuition, well with the money that Leon's raised you could buy enough fries to fill Olin (this plan was fortunately scrapped). Or a flap jack the size of Larchmont, New York (this is, unfortunately, still in the works).

People, actually students mostly, complain about what the money is used for. We didn't need a new gym they say. We don't need a modern art museum. Well, who cares? It's all free anyway. Besides he's also raised hundreds of thousands for scholarship funds and tuition breaks for the needy (though not necessarily for the deserving) and millions for a new library (you remember libraries, they have books in them, your high school had one).

Besides the way things are going if Leon leaves Shelley's bound to become president next. And who wants that besides her mother and Gladys Watson.

Something's Overlooked

Doesn't it seem odd that with all of the controversy surrounding the Ludlow incident that nobody has noticed the obvious? Leon is going bald. This is something that has been going on for quite some time and should be brought out into the open. It's disgusting how apathetic this campus is when it comes to as serious a problem as male pattern baldness. Leon has a problem, but have any of us tried to help? Have you gone up to Leon, looked him straight in the eye and said, "Leon, you're really messed up!"? I thought not.

Never fear, though, for this college can help those with baldness. All it takes is a little work. Who here would not like to see Leon become a better man? Who here would not like to see a kinder, gentler Leon? A hairier Leon? Who here would not like to see Shelley and Gladys mud wrestle at the old gym with Beth refereeing? (I just had to make sure everybody was paying attention). To get back to the topic at hand (it was hair



loss, remember?) Here are my suggestions:

- Get Leon to counseling. I know this has little or nothing to do with his rapidly receding hair line, but, let's be honest, we've all wanted to send Leon to counseling for some time.

- Get Beth to counseling. She probably needs it more than Leon. (Although Beth is not balding at the moment, one never knows.)

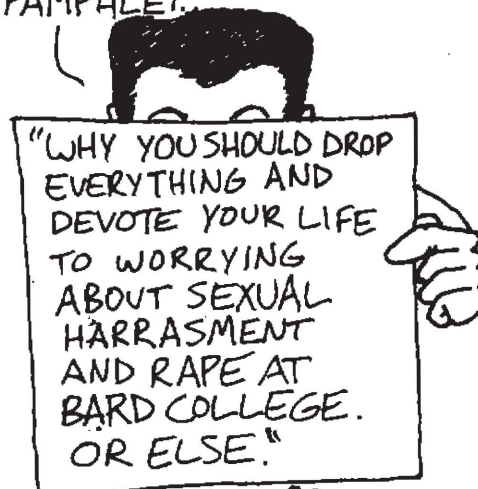
- Hire a full time Dean of Hair Loss. This dean must be on call 24 hours a day to deal with those late night traumas. The Dean must be made autonomous from the administration to that no conflicts of interest arrive. The dean must be a person trained to deal with the guilt and angst that comes from premature balding.

- While we're at it, get Shelley to counseling. I know it's been overused, but I have two words (say them slowly): dance major.

- Better food at Kline. What would a list of suggestions be without this old classic?

Thank you for the show of unity and solidarity I know will be forthcoming.

IF YOU DON'T SHARE OUR
PRIORITIES YOU OBVIOUSLY
HAVEN'T HAD THE ISSUE
SHOVED IN YOUR FACE HARD
ENOUGH - HERE, HAVE A
PAMPHLET.



-RK '91

Additional Courses Offered in the Fall of 1991

Cool 101
Lugg

BOHEMIANISM This course is a prerequisite for Avant Garde Look and Surrealist Talk. It is designed for ~~freshmen~~ first year students who have shown an interest in Cool Studies and might want to major in it. The course will feature techniques of appearance, when to let your stubble grow, why you should not buy your clothes at the Salvation Army, how to pretend you read poetry, philosophy and Latin, how to wear shiny clothes, and to listen to the right music. Texts will include James Joyce, Tomas Pinchon and Jack Karouak.

Wed
1:30-2:15
Albee Social

Lab Tue
3:45-4:00
Kline Wall

Cool 353
Pliny

ADVANCED STRANGENESS A course designed for juniors and seniors majoring in Cool Studies. We will study the aesthetics of weirdness and it's derivatives. The students will all be expected learn all the senseless vocabulary, strange clothes combinations, awkward habits, and will finally write a paper on why you bought an album entitled 1001 Ways To Listen To Water.

Tue
5:00-5:15
Outdoors

Apat 000
TBA

INTRODUCTION TO APATHY

TBA

Timeline of Events

Tuesday May 7

4:30PM Students meet with Shelley to discuss case. Demand that at all future meetings there be no green M&Ms in her candy bowl. Shelley refuses. Students storm out.

Wednesday May 8

12:30PM Takeover planning picnic on Kline lawn, complete with OFF® and California Coolers®.

5:30PM Second planning meeting moved from Albee to DeKline "because the atmosphere was nicer and Dan had to have his snickers."

10:30PM Third meeting moved from Albee to Aspinwall... just because.

11:30PM Students at Simon's Rock are informed that there is going to be a really big party on campus and would they like to come?

Thursday May 9

6:00AM Students hit alarm clock snooze buttons and curse their reactionary impulses.

6:15AM Students stagger onto campus.

6:45AM Students enter Ludlow and forcibly remove all cleaning paraphernalia from the two women found inside, replacing them with their own revolutionary cleansers. Leon Botstein was awakened and heard to mumble something about pink slips before falling back to sleep. Many students are not so lucky.

7:00AM Gabriel Miller reads a statement of intention to annoy from the top of Ludlow, including eight demands which vary from all semester laundry service to a new Bard theme song composed by Donald Fagen. After refusing to negotiate with Bard staff on the ground that it wouldn't generate enough attention, they do call Chevy Chase. Five or six times.

7:15AM Leon Botstein wanders onto campus and wonders aloud if he isn't supposed to be in Vienna that afternoon. Several Ludlow secretaries smile and commiserate about having to take the day off. Several students are overheard suggesting a move to Olin.



Artists Interpretation of Ludlow Takeover

7:30AM Dan Bohn asks bystanders to please stay off his motorcycle. Several of the Ludlow Twenty recite the demands while others practice meaningful poses for hotly expected cameras.

7:45AM Dean Levine wanders about asking why the Iraqis chose Annandale of all places.

8:00AM The demands are reread.

8:05AM The demands are reread.

8:15AM The demands are orchestrated in a 2/4 tempo and polka-ed to.

8:30AM Students inside Ludlow realize that the power is flickering and ponder how they are going to keep their beer cool.

8:45AM Students outside of Ludlow eel left out and begin to accentuate the third syllable of chants (hey hey/ ho ho/ extreme methods are the way to go). Music majors complain openly about the painful meter.

9:30AM Students inside Ludlow get bored calling the overseer of Blum and begin to call friends and family in Flanders, London and Constantinople.

10:30AM Students from SASH read their own statement, renouncing the actions of the occupying force and stating that if they ever did invade a building they certainly wouldn't be so tacky about it.

11:00AM Jean de Casteellaa de DDEEELLLEEYYYYY arrives with bubble gum, Coke and plenty of X-Men to go round. Was seen sitting on the steps of Olin with two key members discussing a recent issue.

11:55AM David Schwab arrives and is turned away because he didn't bring anything. John Honey begins the pre-almost-preliminary-not-quite-yet-negotiations behind Ludlow on a large trampoline.

12:30AM Students obtain a basket to pull up food. Until then they had been relying on a large St. Bernard named Wendle and pizza from Broadway.

12:45AM The power comes back on. Students in the various offices begin to put back the files they opened. Students not involved in the protest question whether or not tension increase could be used as an excuse to gain extensions on work.

1:00PM Preliminary negotiations begin with various administrators to arrange for the senior project and moderation grades of the students inside.

3:00PM Meetings end. No one cleans up. Information is sent up explaining the Kingian philosophy for non-violent social change; it is returned with the words "Not tactical enough" written across the top.

7:00PM Students inside the building compare the disagreeing student population with the worm eating sloth of Central America. The crowd then compares them to the starline bat of Idaho. Progress is small when the crowd breaks up to declare the beginning of the weekend. Many of the occupying members leave stating that giving up social time was not part of the contract.